

CI 1968 J Quinn

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Q1:

The ALRC should focus on developing a new framework for classification to include new and emergent media forms, so as not to leave Australia behind, both in terms of industry, and in terms of informing parents.

Q2:

The primary objective, should be restrict content available to minors, while at the same time, allowing adults access to content appropriate for their age group.

Q3:

There is a specific case for where that is valid, and that is the unrated online interactions where it is impossible to censor people.

Q4:

No. Complaints seem to vary in terms of their effectiveness. Complaints should be ignored if they are for example, complaining that something has PG content, when it is listed as a PG classification.

Q5:

I think that's deeply a matter of opinion. For example, I think scenes of graphic violence should not be shown to children, such as, footage from the holocaust, vietnam, or cultures that flagellate themselves ritually. So perhaps it IS necessary to classify some things across all media. Of course, this is in relation to REAL violence. Pretend, or play violence, such as in cartoons or games, is understandably different from real violence, and even children understand this.

Q6:

Definitely. The more people who see something, the bigger the returns, the more incentive for industry and marketability products have.

Q7:

No. Artwork is art. Pure and simple. Whether it's a five year old's fingerpainting or a statue of a naked man. There should be no classification for artwork.

Q8:

I don't think so. Books, and music are usually genre-fied into areas, marketed towards audiences they appeal to. Thus, the Wiggles would be ignored by adults, but children would find them interesting.

Q9:

Yes. A diverse audience, ie, one that diverges in age range, for example, Mario games are enjoyed by a variety of age groups; and this should allow both young and old to play these types of games without restriction.

Q10:

Yes. Content accessed at home, should not be classified by a government body. What is viewed at the home is private. What is viewed in public, ie, at the movies, or at school, should be affected by classification.

Q11:

I think, where media is consumed is important. If it's online, or in the home, classification is simply a means to inform a purchasing choice. If it's public, like a billboard for example, then that's public space, and it shouldn't include anything pornographic or violent. Hugging or kissing is not something I would consider pornographic.

Q12:

There IS no effective control of online content. Anyone with the necessary skills can circumvent whatever staggeringly expensive measures are put in place, and can distribute those skills easily to others wishing to avoid something they may disagree with.

Q13:

It can't. Only by hovering over their shoulders by parents can things be controlled. OR, a BETTER solution, would be to explain to children, the 'birds and the bees' before they had to find out, on their own. Talk about sex to children early and often, so that when they are exposed to that content, they don't end up confused, afraid, revolted, or upset by it. Violence on the other hand, would need context... and would be more difficult to avoid online.

Q14:

Sexually explicit magazines should be purchasable by anyone over the age of 14 as long as they are with an adult. I don't approve of those magazines, I think they provide false images of sexuality to young men, however, they are an important part of sexual development.

Q15:

DVD cases and movie promos.

Q16:

Government agencies should provide the label, industry bodies should recommend the label, and users should be able to contest the level of classification a piece of media receives.

Q17:

Probably, government at the moment seems to be arbitrary, and, to the personal taste of the arbitrators in question. So not fair or unbiased as it *should* be.

Q18:

Childrens content, G and C rated content should be obvious, as well as strictly adult content; M15+ and R18+

Q19:

Yes. We subsidise the making of them already, we might as well help them on with classification fees as well.

Q20:

They are. I think M15+ and MA15+ cause a little confusion.

Q21:

I think there should be an R18+ category for games(video/computer). The average age of consumers of this media is 25 and rising. Content, appropriate for the majority age group should be legally purchaseable in this country. For it not to be, is condescending, and restricts the market of what items will be sent to this country in the future.

Q22:

I think a simple standard code, which we have, would be fine.

Q23:

Yes.

Q24:

Content that is used by sexual predators to entrap or exploit children.

Q25:

No.

Q26:

I'm not sure, most states are fairly robust when it comes to these. Promotion, seems like a waste of taxpayers money, just put the new classifications out there, with a minimum of fuss.

Q27:

A federal scheme should be introduced

Q28:

Yes.

Q29:

More oversight, more appeals, and more public input, especially by those affected by the decisions made regarding classifications on a product or piece of medi/entertainment they love.

Other comments:

R18+ classification for games is essential for Australian retailers not to lose out to unregulatable, online distribution and piracy.